Express Convenience Centers™

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CITY OF MENASHA
BY

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03/12/2012

Deborah Galeazzi
City of Menasha
140 Main Street
Menasha, WI 54952

Dear Deborah Galeazzi,

As an active business leader in the convenience retailing industry, I was encouraged to hear that Assembly Bill 63 was signed into action December 20, 2011, allowing retailers with a Class A liquor license to sell products as early as 6am. As I prepared my stores for the conversion, I realized certain municipalities were not removing their 8am local ordinance to match state legislation which then prohibits our stores from an additional selling period of two (2) hours.

The purpose of my letter today is to ask for your help in appealing the local ordinance that prohibits our retail stores from maximizing our selling periods. After coming off several difficult years with a slow economy and uncertain consumer outlook, our business is looking for every opportunity to make up sales. Stores on a geographical divide may also experience loss of sales if they are not given the same equal selling time as other stores around them.

Please propose to your local city council to remove the 8am local ordinance prohibiting retails from maximizing selling hours per state legislation.

Please let me know if there is any additional detail or help you need from me when you state your request. Your help in supporting local, small business is paramount in rebuilding our local economy and supporting our community. I appreciate your help and support on this important business matter.

Sincerely,

Jim Kratowicz

Assembly Bill 63 (Wynn/Grothman): This legislation changes current state statute with regard to businesses operating under a Class A liquor license. This bill changes the *morning* closing hours for retailers from 8:00am to 6:00am. This bill does not change the closing hours for the sale of liquor. Meaning, a retailer selling beer can do so lawfully from 6:00am to midnight and a retailer selling intoxicating liquor or wine can do so lawfully from 6:00am to 9:00pm. This legislation also retains current power of municipalities, allowing them to alter these hours by ordinance if they choose.